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State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

JOHN R. BAZA
Division Director

Inspection Report
Minerals Regulatory Program
December 23, 2008

Reviewed: TM

Mine Name: Aurora Clay Mine	Permit Number: S/041/0033
Operator Name: Western Clay Company	Inspection Date: November 25, 2008
Inspector(s): Lynn Kunzler, Wayne Western	Time: 11:45 am
Other Participants: Cory Thurston, Operator	Mine Status: undergoing reclamation

Elements of Inspection	Evaluated	Comment	Enforcement
1. Permits, Revisions, Transfer, Bonds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Public Safety (shafts, adits, trash, signs, highwalls)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Protection of Drainages / Erosion Control	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Deleterious Material	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Roads (maintenance, surfacing, dust control, safety)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Reclamation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Backfilling/Grading (trenches, pits, roads, highwalls,	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Soils	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Revegetation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Purpose of Inspection:

Operator requested site inspection to evaluate regrading work prior to demobilizing equipment

Inspection Summary:

This site was last active in 2004. The annual permit fees are up to date. The Division holds a LOC for \$14,000 from Zion's band as reclamation surety for the site. About 3 acres were disturbed during operations.

This site had been mined and abandoned prior to regulations requiring salvage of topsoil. Western Clay Company decided to reactivate the site in 2002. About 4,000 tons of clay were removed during the next three years. Reclamation of the site included regrading the area and backfilling the pit to the extent practical using old piles of overburden materials and cutting the highwall back. The operator will be seeding the disturbed areas within the next week. At the time of this inspection, most regraded slopes were less than 3h:1v, and blended into the natural surrounding topography. The operator was just finishing ripping the slopes to prepare the roughened seedbed.

Photos were taken to document site conditions.

Conclusions and Recommendations:

Regrading work was acceptable and met DOGM requirements. Although the pit was not completely backfilled, it was backfilled more that was expected, given the limited amount of material on site to do this. The land owner indicated that his cattle can use any water that ponds in the pit like they did prior to reactivation. Once the area is seeded, the operator may request a partial release of the surety. Continue to monitor this site when in the area.

Inspector's Signature

LK:vs

cc: Brad Boyter

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